

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections and rejections set forth in the above-mentioned Official Action in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Specification

The specification is objected to because of a minor informality noted by the Examiner. The specification has been amended to attend to that informality in the manner suggested by the Examiner. It is respectfully submitted that the objection has been overcome.

Claim Status

Claims 1, 4, 6, 9 through 12 and 25 through 36 are now pending in the application. Claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, and 13 through 24 have been canceled. Claims 1, 4, 6, and 9 through 12 have been amended to even more succinctly define the invention and/or to improve their form. Claims 25 through 36 have been presented to accord Applicants an additional scope of protection commensurate with the disclosure. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added. Claims 1 and 31 are the only independent claims pending in the application.

Allowable Subject Matter

It is acknowledged with appreciation that Claims 4, 5, 8 through 10, 16, 17, and 20 through 22 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Claim Objections

Claims 4, 9, 16, and 21 are objected to because of the minor informalities noted by the Examiner. Claims 16 and 21 have been canceled making the objections moot. Claims 4 and 9 have been amended to overcome the objections.

Section 112 Rejection

Claims 1 through 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for the reasons set forth in the Official Action. Claim 1 has been amended *inter alia* to avoid the grounds of the rejection. It is respectfully submitted that the claims on file are fully in compliance with the requirements of the statute, and that the rejection has been overcome and should be withdrawn.

Section 102 Rejection

Claims 1 through 3, 6, 7, 11 through 15, 18, 19, 23, and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,131,008 (Kanamori, et al. '008).

Traversal of Rejection

The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The cancellation of Claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, and 13 through 24 make the rejections of these claims moot. Accordingly, further comment thereon is not necessary.

Amended Claim 1 calls for a toner supply container detachably mountable to an image forming apparatus. The toner supply container includes a container body, which contains a toner. The container body is provided with an opening to permit discharge of the toner. A feeding member, in the container body, feeds the toner toward the opening. The toner feeding member includes a rotatable plate-like member, which extends in a longitudinal direction of the container body. The plate-like member is provided with a

projection, which extends so as to be inclined with respect to a rotational axis thereof to guide the toner on the plate-like member toward the opening with rotation of the plate-like member. A through-hole allows the toner on the plate-like member to fall, thus stirring the toner with rotation of the plate-like member.

Amended Claim 1 has been formulated to include the allowable subject matter of dependent Claim 4.

It is respectfully submitted that amended Claim 1 is allowable over the art of record.

Dependent Claims

Claims 4, 6, 9 through 12, and 25 through 30 depend either directly or indirectly from Claim 1 and are allowable by virtue of their dependency and in their own right for further defining Applicants' invention. Individual consideration of these dependent claims is respectfully requested.

Newly-presented Claims

Independent Claim 31 is newly presented and is believed to be allowable over the cited art.

Kanamori, et al. '008 does not disclose or suggest that the feeding member is rotatable internally with the container body. Kanamori, et al. '008 also fails to disclose or suggest that the plate-like member is extended so as to be inclined with respect to an axis of rotation, and that the plate-like member is provided with a plurality of projections, which extend so as to be inclined with respect to a rotational axis thereof to guide the toner on the plate-like member toward the opening with rotation of the plate-like member.

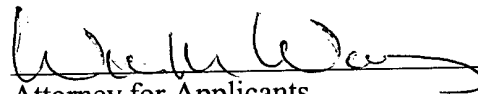
Claims 25 through 30 and 32 through 36 depend either directly or indirectly from Claim 31 and are believed to be allowable in their own right for further defining the invention. Individual consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

Closing Comments

It is respectfully submitted that the claims on file are allowable over the art of record and that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application are earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our New York office at the address shown below.

Respectfully submitted,



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